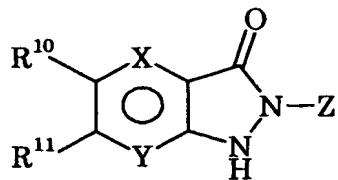


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



5

(I)

wherein X and Y are each CR<sup>1</sup> or N;

one of R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> is R<sup>1</sup> and the other is W;

each R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy,

10 haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy;

W is a phenyl ring or a six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one, two or three nitrogen atoms, which ring is optionally substituted by halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, haloC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, carboxy, hydroxyC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or

15 aminoC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

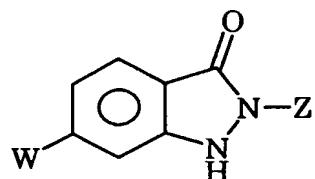
Z is a phenyl ring or a six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one, two or three nitrogen atoms, which ring is substituted at least at the position *para* to the attachment of the ring to the rest of the molecule by halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino,

20 di(C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl)amino, haloC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, carboxy, hydroxyC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or aminoC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1 represented by formula (IA);

25



(IA)

wherein W is phenyl or pyridyl optionally substituted by halogen, C<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1-2</sub>alkoxy; and

5        Z is phenyl or pyridyl substituted at the position *para* to the point of attachment to the rest of the molecule by halogen, C<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-2</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1-2</sub>alkoxy;  
       or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10      3.     A compound selected from:

1,2-dihydro-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridinyl)-3H-indazol-3-one;  
 1,2-dihydro-6-(3-methyl-2-pyridinyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3H-indazol-3-one;

15      1,2-dihydro-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-5-(3-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridinyl)-3H-indazol-3-one;

1,2-dihydro-6-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3H-indazol-3-one;  
 and

1,2-dihydro-6-(3-methyl-2-pyridinyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridin-3-one;  
 20     or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25      4.     A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1-3, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

5.     A compound of any one of claims 1-3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in treatment of the human or animal body.

6. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1-3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of physiological disorders that may be ameliorated by modulating VR1 activity.

5

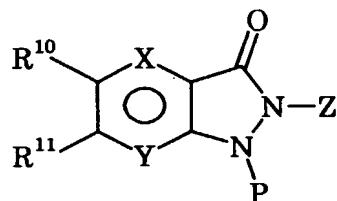
7. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1-3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a disease or condition in which pain and/or inflammation predominates.

10

8. A process for the preparation of a compound of claim 1, which comprises:

(A) reacting a compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula (III):

15



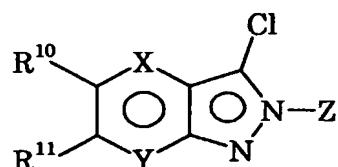
(II)

W-L

(III)

wherein W, X, Y and Z are as defined in claim 1, P is hydrogen or a protecting group, one of R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> is R<sup>1</sup> as defined in claim 1 and the other is L<sup>1</sup>, and one of 20 L and L<sup>1</sup> is Cl or Sn(alkyl)<sub>3</sub> and the other is bromine or chlorine;

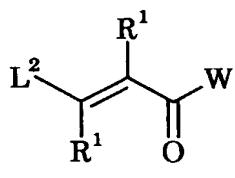
(B) reacting a compound of formula (IV) with a compound of formula (III):



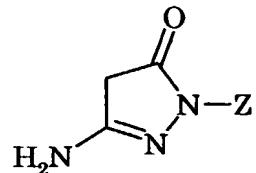
(IV)

wherein X, Y and Z are as defined in claim 1 and R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are as defined above; or

5 (C) for compounds wherein X is CR<sup>1</sup>, Y is N, R<sup>10</sup> is R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> is W, reacting a compound of formula (X) with a compound of formula (XI):



(X)



(XI)

10

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, W and Z are as defined in claim 1 and L<sup>2</sup> is a leaving group.

9. A method for the treatment or prevention of physiological disorders that may be ameliorated by modulating VR1 activity, which method comprises 15 administration to a patient in need thereof of an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a composition comprising a compound of claim 1.

10. A method for the treatment or prevention of a disease or condition in which pain and/or inflammation predominates, which method comprises 20 administration to a patient in need thereof of an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a composition comprising a compound of claim 1.